

Alghabra AB readout

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Minister Alghabra offered assistance/help if needed and asked how the situation was evolving in Alberta. Minister Sawhney talked about the disruptions for industry particularly the meat/cattle industry who are feeling the effects of the blockade. She noted that even though Albertans are somewhat sympathetic to the protest at Coutts, they have begun to understand that it's affecting industry and supply chains and they've started taking a different stance (i.e. you have a right to protest but not when it affects supply chains/leads to food shortages). She said she can't think of particular asks from the federal government regarding resources for Coutts but will let us know if something comes up. She asked about interprovincial vaccine requirements for truckers and whether there is a mandate coming soon. Minister Alghabra said we're still assessing situation and will adjust according to public health advice, no timeline as of yet. Minister Sawhney agrees with basing regulation on public health guidance and is supportive of vaccines and the boosters. She agrees that the protests taking place in Ottawa are not reflective of everyday truckers, most of whom are vaccinated. She asked Minister Alghabra how the situation in Ottawa is and Minister Alghabra said it's died down considerably over the last few days compared to last weekend. They both discussed the supply chain summit and how they look forward to working together to find solutions to the issues identified.

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